

The Government Statist has obtained general reports from the various Police Collectors in the State and also returns from representative farmers relative to the 1925-26 Cereal Harvest, and on the basis of these it is estimated that the grand total acreage under Wheat, Barley and Oats for all purposes is 3,479,876 (3,412,346) acres, an increase of 67,530 acres.

The following are the details:-

<u>Crop</u>	<u>1925-26</u> <u>Ac.</u>	<u>1924-25</u> <u>Ac.</u>	<u>Increase</u> <u>Ac.</u>
Wheat	2,787,460	2,815,183	(-) 27,723
Barley	233,648	173,608	60,040
Oats	458,768	423,555	35,213
<u>Total</u>	<u>3,479,876</u>	<u>3,412,346</u>	<u>67,530</u>

**WHEAT** - The returns and reports received indicate a probable falling off of 27,723 acres of Wheat compared with last season. The Central and Upper North Divisions are responsible for the decrease. There is a fair increase in the Western and Murray Mallee Divisions, and nearly the same area as last year in the Lower North Division.

The reports received explain that the decrease in Wheat is due to larger areas being sown with Barley and Oats, and to a tendency to use the land for grazing; also that the sowing period this year was dry and unfavourable.

It is expected that 2,446,250 acres under Wheat will be reserved for grain, the balance 341,210 acres being cut for hay.

**BARLEY AND OATS** - The Yorke Peninsula and other Barley and Oaten Districts report substantial increases, the total areas under these crops being records.

**YIELD** - On the basis of the October Police Reports, it is estimated that with a favourable harvesting season an average Wheat Yield of 13.10 bushels may be expected, yielding an aggregate of approximately 32,064,000 bushels. The 1924-25 wheat yield was 30,528,625 bushels, average 12.21 bushels per acre. The increase is principally due to better prospects in the Murray Mallee, Western and Lower North Divisions.

The following statement shows the estimated Wheat Yield in each Division of the State.

<u>Division</u>	<u>Wheat for Grain</u> <u>Acres</u>	<u>Total Yield</u> <u>Bushels</u>	<u>Av. per Acre.</u> <u>Bushels</u>
Central	430,400	6,456,000	15.00
Lower North	728,500	12,020,000	16.50
Upper North	193,200	2,270,000	11.75
South Eastern	25,650	372,000	14.50
Western	545,500	5,455,000	10.00
Murray Mallee	523,000	5,421,000	10.50
<u>Total State</u>	<u>2,446,250</u>	<u>32,064,000</u>	<u>13.10</u>